

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NIAMEY 01870 191435Z

53

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 690

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OAU, PGOV, XA, NG

SUBJ: VISIT TO NIGER OF OAU DEP SEC GENERAL KAMANDA

1. DEP SEC GEN OAU KAMANDA VISITED NIGER MAY 14-17 FOR SERIES OF COURTESY CALLS AND EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION WITH GON OFFICIALS. IN PREDEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE HE ADDRESSED ISSUES OF ANGOLA, SOUTH AFRICA, SPANISH SAHARA AND DJIBOUTI.

2. HE APPEALED TO ANGOLAN LEADERS TO SHOW WORLD THEIR SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY. IT WAS HORRIFYING THOUGHT THAT FIGHTING NOW GOING ON IN ANGOLA BETWEEN BROTHERS COULD CAUSE MORE DEATHS THAN OCCURRED DURING FOURTEEN YEARS OF LIBERATION STRUGGLE. HE COMPLIMENTED PORTUGUESE ON DECOLONIZATION POLICIES, BUT ALLUDED TO INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA BY FOREIGNERS IN EFFORT DIVIDE AND CONTROL.

3. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION REGARDING HIS VIEWS TOWARD INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVES BY CERTAIN AFRICAN HEADS OF STATES TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA, ZE SIDESTEPED ISSUE BY SAYING OAU IS A "TRIBUNE WHERE AFRICAN STATES SEEK SOLUTIONS TO COMMON PROBLEMS AND NOT WHERE ONE CONDEMNS MEMBER

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PAGE 02 NIAMEY 01870 191435Z

STATES."

4. KAMANDA CRITICIZED AID GIVEN SOUTH AFRICA BY NATO MEMBERS WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS DECISIVE IN ALLOWING THAT COUNTRY DEFY UN AND INTERNATIONAL OPINION. RIKYMUKN SAHARA, HIS SOLUTION WAS FOR SPAIN TO GIVE INDEPENDENCE AFTER WHICH PROBLEM WOULD BE PURELY AFRICAN TO RESOLVE AMICABLY.

6. CONCERNING DJIBOUTI, KAMANDA EXPRESSED SURPRISE FRENCH PREFERRED "HANG ON TO THAT LITTLE BIT OF TERRITORY" RATHER THAN GIVE INDEPENDENCE AS IT HAD TO ITS OTHER AFRICAN COLONIES. HE SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT HOWEVER FRANCE WOULD GRANT INDEPENDENCE SINCE SUCH WOULD NOT PRECLUDE FRIENDSHIP OR COOPERATION. BUCHE

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